

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

The present application is a continuation application of previously filed application having Serial No. 10/215,987 which was filed on August 9, 2002 which ~~is set to~~ has matured [[as]] into U.S. Patent No. 6,619,048 on September 16, 2003, which is a continuation application of previously filed, application having Serial No. 09/603,284 which was filed on June 26, 2000 which matured into U.S. Patent No. 6,430,940 on August 13, 2002 and which is based on and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) to provisional patent application having been filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, having Serial No. 60/173,656 and a filing date of December 30, 1999.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

In [[a]] many fields of art, but especially in the fields of art relating to dance club productions and staging productions, it is desirable to utilize cloud or fog type effects in order to enhance the look and/or ambiance of the particular location. Traditionally, such cloud type effects are generated utilizing devices often referred to as "fog machines", wherein a water or oil based chemical solution is atomized and

heated, spraying a cloud into the air. This cloud, however, is difficult to control or direct, often has many impurities associated therewith, and causes chemicals to linger in an area for an extended period of time. In addition to those types of fog machine structures, other more advanced machines have also been utilized in an attempt to produce a special effects cloud through cooling. In such devices, water vapor or another chemical is atomized and super cooled, such as with dry ice or another cold material, in order to produce a fog type condensation that stays low to the ground. Unfortunately, such conventional systems are often substantially difficult to control and regulate in order to provide a sufficient effect, and produce a fog that merely migrates over an area in an uncontrolled fashion. Furthermore, such existing systems often have the associated draw back of only moderately condensing the water vapor or atomized chemical, such that "fog" produced tends to be damp and/or wet, often creating a dampness or wetness on contacted surfaces, such as on a dance floor, which creates a potential hazard, and tends to create an uncomfortable, humid environment for persons in the area. As a result, it would be desirable to develop a way of generating a more concentrated cloud or fog, which will minimize water build up in a particular location and will maintain and/or enhance the comfort level of individuals in a location wherein the effect is generated.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

Of course, a problem that results from maintaining such cryogenic fluids in the necessary liquid state relates to the dispensing of quantities of the cryogenic fluid as needed. In particular, if the container is merely opened in a standard environment, the liquid will not "pour" out like a conventional liquid, but rather, the liquid will revert to its gaseous state immediately. Accordingly, it has been necessary to develop an effective mechanism for delivering the cryogenic fluid substantially in its liquid state. Presently, vacuum jacketed cryogenic fluid containers are equipped with self pressurizing assemblies so as to provide for the appropriate delivery of the cryogenic fluid from the container in liquid form when needed. Such self pressurization generally involves the expansion of a quantity of the cryogenic fluid in its liquid state, such as by removing it from its contained environment, so as to result in the formation of a quantity of gas, that is then returned into the container to achieve the necessary outflow and delivery pressurization of the cryogenic fluid, preferably in its liquid state. As a result, the pressurized gas which results from the expansion of the cryogenic fluid in liquid state serves to push remaining amounts of useable cryogenic fluid from the tank for

effective delivery and utilization. While such a self pressurization delivery technique may be sufficient in some applications for the cryogenic fluid, in the field of effects generation, such self pressurization is seen to be less effective than desirable.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

The cryogenic fluid source 20, and preferably the container 21, also preferably includes a plurality of valves and conduits associated therewith so as to preserve the pressurization and stability of the cryogenic fluid contained therein. Among these features are at least one fluid inlet 26, such as that associated with the "vent" valve, and at least one fluid outlet 28, such as that associated with the "liquid valve". The fluid inlet 26 and the fluid outlet 28 are preferably disposed in fluid flow communication with the interior chamber 22 of the container 21. Moreover, in the illustrated embodiment, the fluid outlet 28 and fluid inlet 26 are preferably connected in fluid flow communication with generally opposite ends of the interior chamber 22 of the container 21. For example, in the illustrated embodiment, the fluid outlet 28 is preferably disposed generally near a bottom of the container 21, so as to facilitate the passage of the cryogenic fluid, and preferably

the liquid nitrogen, from the container 21. Conversely, the fluid inlet 26 is preferably disposed generally near a top portion of the container 21. Such positioning, although not required, is preferred, as will become apparent, so as to more effectively effectuate the outflow of cryogenic fluid for use in the effects generation. Of course other valves and conduits normally present in such containers for pressure regulation and equalization may still be present. The effects generation system 10 of the present invention further includes a pressurization assembly, generally 30. In particular, the pressurization assembly 30 is operatively associated with the cryogenic fluid source 20, and preferably with the container 21, so as to selectively and variably maintain an outflow of the cryogenic fluid from the container 21 under pressure. Furthermore, the pressurization assembly 30 is preferably structured to maintain a substantially continuous outflow of the cryogenic fluid in order to achieve substantial fluid flow pressure equalization at each of a plurality of delivery ports 46, to be described in further detail subsequently. In the illustrated embodiment, the pressurization assembly 30 is operatively coupled with the container 21 at the fluid inlet 26. Moreover, the pressurization assembly 30 preferably includes a pressurized fluid source 32. The pressurized fluid source 32 preferably includes one or more tanks containing a

pressurization fluid, such as a highly pressurized and compressed gas. Furthermore, in the preferred embodiment, the pressurization fluid 32 preferably includes a compatible elemental makeup with that of the cryogenic fluid disposed within the container 21, thereby minimizing and preferably avoiding any contamination of the cryogenic fluid. In particular, the pressurized fluid source 32 is coupled into fluid flow communication, such as by one or more conduits, at the fluid inlet 26 of the cryogenic fluid source 20. In order to generate an outflow of cryogenic fluid from the cryogenic fluid source 20, the pressurization fluid is allowed to flow from the pressurized fluid source 32 into the container 21, accordingly pushing out the cryogenic fluid contained therein and resulting in the outflow of cryogenic fluid through the fluid outlet 28. As a result, although a mixing does not occur, there is at least some contact and/or interaction between the pressurization fluid and the cryogenic fluid. Accordingly, by utilizing compatible elemental makeups, the cryogenic fluid contained within the container 21 is not contaminated by the pressurization fluid and its effectiveness is not generally diminished and/or wasted. By way of example, in the illustrated embodiment wherein the cryogenic fluid includes liquid nitrogen, the pressurization fluid within the pressurized fluid source 32 preferably includes nitrogen gas. Although not preferred or

recommended, it is recognized that pressurized air ~~under~~
~~pressure~~, carbon dioxide, and/or ~~[[an]]~~other pressurization
fluids could also be utilized~~[[,]]~~. ~~however~~ However, the
preferred compatible materials are utilized to minimize waste
and contamination, especially in light of the often expensive
cost of the cryogenic fluid, such as a liquid nitrogen.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 11
with the following amended paragraph:

Looking to Figure 2, in yet another embodiment of the
present invention, the effect generation system 10 may also
include a fluid collection assembly 60. In particular, the
fluid collection assembly 60, which in the illustrated
embodiment includes an expandable bladder, is structured to be
disposed, at least temporarily, in fluid collecting engagement
over one or more of the delivery ports 46 so as to collect a
quantity of the cryogenic fluid therein. Moreover, the fluid
collection assembly 60 is also preferably structured to abruptly
release the collected quantities of cryogenic fluid into the
desired area, such as through a rupturing of the expandable
bladder. In particular, by the abrupt release of a large
quantity of cryogenic fluid contained by the fluid collection
assembly 60, a more concentrated and dramatic special effect
cloud is created, also typically accompanied by a large noise,

such as resulting from the rupturing of the fluid collection assembly 60 and the sudden release of cryogenic fluid. Of course, it is recognized that a baffle type structure and/or another configuration could be utilized so as to collect a quantity of cryogenic fluid, as at 60, and result in its substantially abrupt release.